The Rural Sanitary Authority
The Stockbridge Union

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.

During the year 1893 the deaths of 98 persons of all ages, and from all causes were registered in the District, against 118 the previous year, and 129 in 1891. These 98 deaths were at the rate of 14.5 per 1000 of the population. Of this number, 16 were of children under one year of age, and 64 of from 25 and upwards. The proportion borne by the Infant Mortality to the general death-rate is greater than it should be, four being registered as having died from Convulsions, six from Premature Birth, two from Tuberculosis, one from Debility, one from Erysipelas, and one from Peritonitis: Still, the birth-rate is very satisfactory as regards the death-rate, being 18.6 births during the year.

The deaths recorded during the year, under five years of age, were caused thus:— two from Measles, one from Heart-disease, eleven from other Complaints, one from Injury, and one from Bronchitis.

Diseases of the Respiratory organs, especially local inflammatory affections as Pneumonia and Bronchitis are fewer than in 1892, being 12 against 23 in that year.

The deaths from Phthisis this last year are nil. Those from Heart-disease are 17 against 14 in 1892, and 13 in 1891.

Scarlet Fever. There were 10 cases of Scarlet Fever notified to me at Stockbridge, 2 at Kingsomborne, 4 at Lower Eldon, 2 at Leckford, and 1 at Lower Wallop. There were also two cases at Broughton. On the 11th of June, I was called to see a boy named George Moore, aged seven years, whom I found suffering from Scarlet Fever. On inquiring into the case, I learnt that his sister, Elizabeth Moore, who is in an Orphanage (St Michael's) at Southsea, caught Scarlet Fever, and was sent to the Infectious Hospital. She left on the 8th of June, and was sent home to her mother. She slept with her brother George, who caught the disease, and died of it. The eldest boy took it also and recovered. I enforced the strictest isolation, and made free use of disinfectants, and the disease spread no further.

Measles. In July an Epidemic of Measles broke out at East Tytherley, cases occurring in nearly every cottage. I had the school closed, and the Epidemic subsided. There were two fatal cases.

Influenza. During January and February there were a great many cases in Over and Lower Wallop, East and West Tytherley, and Broughton.

Influenza. There was only one death recorded. The number of cases under my care amounted to 90

Diarrhœa There is only one death recorded from Diarrhœa, and there are only eight people mentioned as having suffered from that complaint in the whole District

Whooping Cough There were a few cases of Whooping-Cough in Broughton in February and March; it did not spread beyond the Village.

Water Supply During the long, dry summer, one would have thought that the Water Supply would have been very deficient; but such was not the case, except in outlying hamlets, where they had to have the Water carted, but in all the villages they had plenty. Some of the wells were dry, but others close by had a plentiful supply.

The Cottages The cottages throughout the District have been much improved during the last year, especially in Over Wallop, and I believe the cottagers see the advantage of keeping their cottages and surroundings clean, and are now more willing to do what they are told.

Cholera I have reported to your Board, the precautions I have taken to prevent the spread of Cholera, I visited every village in the District, inspected the cottages and surroundings, advised the inhabitants to be very particular in keeping their houses

as clean as possible, and to remove any nuisance immediately. I also had printed bills put up in the different villages, giving them instructions as to the best means of preventing the spread of the disease, and what to do in the event of a case springing up amongst them.

Sanitary Inspector's report

Ashley

3 Privies emptied and cleaned.

Broughton

7 Privies emptied, 3 heaps of manure removed, 4 Pigsties and 1 Cesspool cleaned.

Bossington

2 Privies cleaned.

Houghton

1 new Privy erected, 3 Privies cleaned, 2 Pigsties emptied, 2 heaps of manure removed, Well reported.

Thinpsombarne

4 Pigsties emptied, 7 Privies and 1 drain cleaned, 4 heaps of manure removed

Little Sombarne

2 Privies and 3 Pigsties emptied, 2 heaps of manure removed

Leckford

2 Privies and 2 Pigsties emptied, 2 heaps of manure removed.

Longstock.

4 Pigsties, 2 Privies, 4 heaps of manure removed, 1 new drain and 1 Cesspool made.

Stockbridge

1 case of overcrowding, 20 Privies emptied and cleaned, 4 drains cleaned, 1 new privy made

West Tytherley

2 drains cleaned, 4 Pigsties and 6 Privies emptied, 2 heaps of manure removed

East Tytherley

4 Privies and 2 Pigsties emptied, 1 heap of manure removed.

Nether Wallop

3 Pigsties and 5 Privies emptied, 3 heaps of manure removed

Over Wallop

4 Cesspools and 3 Pigsties emptied, 2 heaps of manure removed.

I have the honour to be
Your obt. Servt.
James Clapperton M.D.
M. O. H.

Annual Report
of the Medical Officer of Health
to the
Street Urban Sanitary Authority
1893.

STEEPLETON,
STOCKBRIDGE,
January 27, 1909.

To

The Chairman and Members of the STOCKBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg herewith to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of your District for the year 1908.

Division.

The Rural District of Stockbridge consists of the two sub-Districts—Stockbridge and Broughton.

Population.

The Population at the Census 1900 was 6,130.

Acreage.

Your District covers an area of 42,604 Acres.

Inhabited Houses.

The number of Inhabited Houses is 1532, the average number of occupants per house being 4·1.

Physical features.

The Health of the District is uniformly good, this condition being mainly due to its fine Physical features. The Country generally is well-watered, the Test and its swiftly flowing tributaries contributing towards a free circulation of air, which greatly assists in shortening the life of epidemics when they arise.

Chief Occupation of Inhabitants.

There are no Towns in your District, the Inhabitants depending for their existence almost entirely on Agricultural pursuits.

Factories and Workshops Act, 1901.

There are no Factories or Workshops whatever. I have therefore no Report to make under the Factories and Workshops Act of 1901.

Public Elementary Schools.

A County Medical Officer undertakes the Medical Inspection of School Children. I have had some correspondence with him, and am pleased to find he is anxious to share in the responsibility of closing Schools when this is done with a view to checking the spregd of an epidemic.

Closing of Schools in Epidemics.

This is always a difficult matter to decide on, so many different issues being at stake, and so many different opinions as to the efficacy of closure, being existent. Personally, I consider that closure of the Schools should only be insisted on as a last resource.

In consequence of complaints arising as to the existence of "Pediculi" amongst the Children, I have had (acting with the County Medical Officer) the whole of the Schools at Stockbridge disinfected during the holidays.

Isolation Hospital.

There is no Isolation Hospital for ordinary cases, in this District. My own impression is, that unless Hospital accommodation is provided on most efficient and therefore elaborate lines, the checking the spread of epidemics, in the country, is better effected by careful isolation at home, and this is the method pursued in this District.

Disinfection.

Disinfection after an infectious disease is always efficiently performed by the Sanitary Inspector, immediately that he receives notice that an infected quarter is ready for disinfection.

Tuberculosis.

Heretofore no compulsory system of Notification of Tuberculosis has existed in this District. I moved for the adoption of the Notification Act in the summer, but was unable to carry the point. Great care is taken in cases of Tuberculosis to prevent its spread by all ordinary means, such as the careful collection and disposal of all Sputum, &c., &c. Earlier cases are dealt with on open-air lines when possible ; now, of course, Pauper cases are Notifiable.

Cowsheds.

The Cowsheds show distinct Sanitary improvement, the wood-work is more frequently lime-washed, and the floors are kept cleaner. Ventilation, chiefly by windows and shutters and in some cases half-open doors, is plentiful. The necessity of insisting upon the careful washing of the udders is pointed out to the Cow-Keepers.

Very little difficulty is experienced in this District in persuading Milk Vendors to Register.

Tubercular Milk.

No cases of Tuberculosis have been traced to Milk during the year.

Sewage and Drainage.

Drainage is as effective as it can be rendered in this District : Cess-pits with overflows being in use as far as possible. The bucket system is in vogue where safe ground for emptying is available, this system being preferable to the old large underground vaults. When Owners of Cottage Property can be persuaded to supply them, the use of combined covered Ash Pits and Vaults (bricked and cemented) is strongly recommended, this doing away with the unhealthy open-air middens.

Over-crowding.

Very few cases of Over-crowding have been reported during the year. One bad case at Longstock was dealt with ; while one, almost unavoidable, at Leckford, has been amended and is under supervision.

Water Supply.

The Water Supply is plentiful, and of good character, being almost entirely from wells, either in the chalk, or in some cases from deeper wells reached by boring.

Wells.

In Stockbridge, and other villages on the river level, the Wells are of course very shallow, and the risk of contamination is great.

Surface Water.

The disposal of Surface Water, too, in these lower-lying Villages is naturally a matter of difficulty, but we have hitherto been able to deal with the matter without allowing stagnation for any length of time.

Lead Poisoning.

This is no water from public service, and in the few cases of Lead Poisoning I have met with, the plumbic solvent has almost always been traced to the vessels storing the supply, which invariably is found to be rain water. The extreme hardness of the well water acts as a natural protection. The safety of certain wells from contamination, at Wallop, was at one time seriously threatened by the strong desire of an Agent to use the Bucket system where the only site for emptying was on sloping ground running down to the Wells, but eventually the difficulty was overcome, and the more satisfactory Vault and Ash-pit System now prevails.

Milk Supply.

The Milk Supply is satisfactory, a sufficiency of fresh Milk being generally available direct from one of the numerous Dairies or Milk Shops in the District.

Dairies and Milk Shops.

The Milk is good and wholesome. The Dairies and Milk Shops are periodically visited by the Inspector and myself. The Cows lie out always during the summer—they are generally in the meadows during the day all the year, and in some cases are in the open altogether.

Birth Rate.

During the year 1908 150 Births were registered, giving an increase of 11 over the previous year, and of 30 over the year before that.

Death Rate.

The Death Rate for the year was low, there having been only 89 Deaths recorded. This gives a Death Rate of 12·4 per 1000 of the estimated population. Forty-nine were in the Stockbridge District, and 40 in the Broughton. Of the 49 in Stockbridge 12 occurred in the Workhouse : and it is interesting to note that of these 12 —nine were over 75 years of age and 4 of them over 80, the other 2 being 59 and 69 respectively.

Cause of Death.

The chief causes of Death were :—Cancer, 7 ; Bronchitis, 4 ; Heart Disease, 17 ; Pneumonia, 3 ; Tubercular Phthisis, Influenza, and Diphtheria, 1 each ; and 2 Accidents.

Infant Mortality.

During the year 10 Infants under 1 year of age died. The cause of death among children were : Whooping Cough, 2 ; Premature birth, 1 ; Bronchitis, 2 ; Congenital Malformatian, 1 ; Pneumonia, 2 ; Convulsions, 1 ; Hydrocephalus, 1.

Inspection of Drains.

Scarlet Fever.

Tweuty-one cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year. Of these 16 were Scarlet Fever, there haviug been an epidemic at Up Somborne in May last. It did not spread much, and this shows that isolation can be successfully carried out at home, as a girl of 14 was the originator of the outbreak, she being actually found walking about in the village while disquamating. There were two mild cases of Diphtheria at Houghton, and two at Brook ; and one of Puerperal Fever at Wallop.

Schools Closed.

The Schools closed during the year have been Up Somborne, from Scarlet Fever, and Houghton, on account of Measles.

I have to acknowledge my indebtedness to Drs. Cusse and Hall, who have worked with me cordially throughout the year.

I append the Report received from Mr. Ayles, Sanitary Inspector, who has performed his duties to my entire satisfaction throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

WALTER K. LOVELESS,

M. O. H., Stockbridge Union.

BROUGHTON,

January 27, 1909.

DEAR SIR,

The following are the Entries in my Journal, and which cases I have laid before the District Council.

Yours truly,

W. J. AYLES.

1908.	*Parish.*		
January	20—Kingsomborne	...	Fumigated Bed Room
	,,		,, ,, ,,
	,,		,, ,, ,,
,,	23—Broughton	...	,, ,, ,,
,,	31—Stockbridge	...	Defective condition of Cow Pens
February	3—Kingsomborne	...	Overcrowded Cottage
,,	7— ,,	...	Defective condition of Cottage, etc.
,,	8—Broughton	...	Nuisance from Slop Water
,,	22—Nether Wallop	...	Defective condition of Privies
March	10—Lower Eldon	...	Fumigated Bed Room
,,	28—Broughton	...	Water Supply to House
April	23—West Tytherley	...	Alleged Overcrowded Cottage
,,	23— ,, ,,	...	Covered Ashpit required
May	9—Stockbridge	...	Defective Drain
,,	25—West Tytherley	...	,, ,,
,,	25— ,, ,,	...	Cottage required Lime-washing
,,	25— ,, ,,	...	,, ,, ,,
,,	25— ,, ,,	...	,, ,, ,,
,,	26—Kingsomborne	...	Fumigated Cottage
,,	26—Nether Wallop	...	Overcrowded Cottage
,,	28—Broughton	...	Defective Privies
June	5—Kingsomborne	...	Fumigated Bed Rooms
,,	5— ,,	...	,, ,, ,,
,,	6—Broughton	...	Two new Privies required
,,	6—Bossington	...	Drainage to Cowpens
,,	8—Broughton	...	Water Supply to House
,,	8—Kingsomborne	...	Water Supply and Ashpits
,,	17—Broughton	...	Fumigated Bed Room
,,	17—Kingsomborne	...	,, ,, ,,
,,	17— ,,	...	,, ,, ,,
,,	17— ,,	...	,, ,, ,,
,,	19—Stockbridge	...	Defective Drain
,,	19— ,,	...	New Ashpit to 10 Cottages
,,	21—Houghton	...	Well Kerb to 4 Cottages
,,	22—Stockbridge	...	Ashpits, 4 Cottages
,,	22— ,,	...	Drainage to 14 Cottages, and General Repairs to [ditto
,,	22—Broughton	...	New Privies and Ashpits, 4 Cottages
,,	25—Little Somborne	...	Lime-washing Cottage and new Privy
,,	25—Kingsomborne	...	Fumigated Bed Room
July	1—Houghton	...	Privies, 3 Cottages
,,	1— ,,	...	Brick Vault to Privy
,,	1— ,,	...	Water Supply to Cottage
,,	1— ,,	...	Lime-washing Cottage
,,	1— ,,	...	Repairs to Privy and covered Ashpit
,,	1— ,,	...	2 new Privies required, & 1 Cottage Lime-washed
,,	3—Over Wallop	...	2 new Privies and Ashpits
,,	3— ,,	...	1 ,, ,, ,,
,,	3— ,,	...	1 Brick Vault to Privy and Ashpit
,,	7—Kingsomborne	...	Overcrowded Cottage, and new Privy and Ashpit
,,	7— ,,	...	Defective Privy
,,	7— ,,	...	New Privy required
,,	16—Stockbridge	...	Water Closets discharging into River Course
,,	16— ,,	...	Insanitary Cottage
,,	20—Nether Wallop	...	Defective Privy and Ashpit
,,	20— ,, ,,	...	New Well Kerb required
,,	21—Kingsomborne	...	Defective Privy Accommodation, 3 Cottages
,,	21— ,,	...	Lime-washing Cottage

1908.	Parish.		
July	21—Kingsomborne	...	1 Cottage unfit for habitation
,,	22—Stockbridge	...	Water Closets discharges into the River Course
,,	23—Nether Wallop	...	Leaky Roofs to 2 Cottages
,,	28—Broughton	...	General Repairs, 3 Cottages
,,	28 ,,	...	Overcrowded Cottage
,,	31—Kingsomborne	...	,, ,,
,,	31— ,,	...	New Well Kerb required
August	1—Longstock	...	Overcrowded Cottage
,,	1— ,,	...	,, ,,
,,	1— ,,	...	,, ,,
,,	1— ,,	...	Well Kerb repaired
,,	1— ,,	...	Nuisance from Ash-heap
,,	1— ,,	...	General Repairs to 4 Cottages, including Privies [and Ashpits
,,	10—Kingsomborne	...	Overcrowded Cottage
,,	10— ,,	...	Defective Drains
,,	12— ,,	...	Lime-washing Cottage and Drain trapped
,,	12— ,,	...	Defective Drain
,,	12— ,,	...	Dirty Privy
,,	18—Ashley	...	Defective Drains
,,	18—Kingsomborne	...	,, ,,
,,	18— ,,	...	Nuisance from Pigstye being close to House
September	11— ,,	...	Lime-washing Cottage
,,	15—Broughton	...	Drainage to Cowpens
,,	21— ,,	...	Insanitary Area at 5 Cottages
,,	21— ,,	...	Defective Drains and Cesspit
,,	22—Nether Wallop	...	Overcrowded Cottage
,,	24—Leckford	...	Drainage to Cowpens
,,	24— ,,	...	Overcrowded Cottage
October	12—Kingsomborne	...	,, ,,
,,	12— ,,	...	,, ,,
,,	13—Over Wallop	...	New Kerb to Rain-water Tank
,,	13— ,, ,,	...	Water Supply to Bungalow
November	6—Houghton	...	Defective Drain
,,	11—Longstock	...	Overcrowded Cottage
,,	14—Houghton	...	Fumigated Bed Room
,,	24—Nether Wallop	...	Drainage to Cow Pen
December	5—Kingsomborne	...	Overcrowded Cottage
,,	8—Middle Wallop	...	,, ,,
,,	17—Kingsomborne	...	Fumigated 2 Bed Rooms

Other Inspections of Cow Pens and Bakehouses have also been made, from which nothing necessitated my making any report.

W. J. AYLES.